

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 5-8, 10, 11, 14 and 44-46 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 14 being the independent claims. Claim 9 is sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. This change is believed to introduce no new matter, and its entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1, 5-8, 10, 11, 14 and 44-46 are allowed.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

***Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph***

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly not enabled. Solely in an effort to expedite prosecution and without acquiescing in the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have canceled claim 9. Therefore, the rejection has been rendered moot and Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

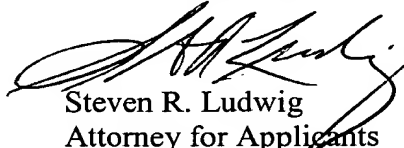
***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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